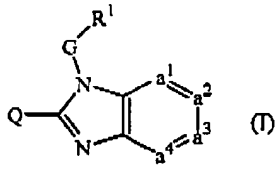
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. ***(previously presented)*** A method for treating respiratory syncytial viral infections, comprising the step of:

administering to a patient in need of such treatment, a composition comprising an effective amount of a compound of formula I:



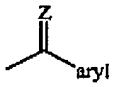
(I)

an addition salt or stereochemically isomeric form thereof,

wherein $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ represents a bivalent radical of formula

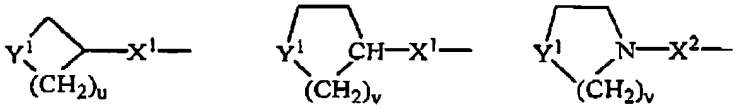
$-CH=CH-CH=CH-$ (a-1);

wherein each hydrogen atom in the radical (a-1) may optionally be replaced by halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, nitro, amino, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, polyhaloC_{1-6}alkyl, carboxyl, aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, mono- or di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, or a radical of formula



wherein Z is O, CH-C(=O)-$NR^{5a}R^{5b}$, CH_2, CH-C_{1-6}alkyl, N-OH or N-O-C_{1-6}alkyl;

Q is a radical of formula



(b-4) , (b-5) or , (b-6) ;

wherein

Y^1 is a bivalent radical of formula $-NR^2-$ or $-CH(NR^2R^4)-$;

X^1 is NR^4, S, S(=O), $S(=O)_2$, O, CH_2, C(=O), $C(=CH_2)$, CH(OH), $CH(CH_3)$, $CH(OCH_3)$, $CH(SCH_3)$, $CH(NR^{5a}R^{5b})$, CH_2-NR^4 or NR^4-CH_2;

X^2 is a direct bond, CH_2, C(=O), NR^4, C_{1-4}alkyl-NR^4, NR^4-C_{1-4}alkyl;

u is 2 or 3;

v is 2; and

whereby each hydrogen atom in the carbocycles and the heterocycles defined in radicals (b-4), (b-5), and (b-6) may optionally be replaced by R^3; with the proviso that when R^3 is hydroxy or C_{1-6}alkyloxy, then R^3 can not replace a hydrogen atom in the α position relative to a nitrogen atom;

G is a direct bond or C_{1-10}alkanediyl;

R^1 is a monocyclic heterocycle selected from piperidinyl, piperazinyl, pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolyl, furanyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, thienyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, isoxazolyl, oxadiazolyl, and isothiazolyl; and each heterocycle may optionally be substituted with 1 or where possible more substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, amino, cyano, carboxy, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, C_{1-6}alkylthio, C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl, aryl, arylC_{1-6}alkyl, arylC_{1-6}alkyloxy, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, mono-or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, mono-or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, polyhaloC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonylamino, C_{1-6}alkyl-SO_2-NR^{5c}-, aryl-SO_2-NR^{5c}-, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, -C(=O)-$NR^{5c}R^{5d}$, HO(-CH_2-CH_2-O)$_n$-, halo(-CH_2-CH_2-O)$_n$-, C_{1-6}alkyloxy(-CH_2-CH_2-O)$_n$-, arylC_{1-6}alkyloxy(-CH_2-CH_2-O)$_n$- and mono-or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino(-CH_2-CH_2-O)$_n$-;

each n independently is 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R^2 is hydrogen, formyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl, Hetcarbonyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl substituted with $N(R^6)_2$, or C_{1-10}alkyl substituted with $N(R^6)_2$ and optionally with a second, third or fourth substituent selected from amino, hydroxy, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{2-5}alkanediyl, piperidinyl, mono-or

di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino,

C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonylamino, aryl and aryloxy;

R^3 is hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, arylC_{1-6}alkyl or arylC_{1-6}alkyloxy;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl or arylC_{1-6}alkyl;

R^{5a}, R^{5b}, R^{5c} and R^{5d} each independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}alkyl; or

R^{5a} and R^{5b}, or R^{5c} and R^{5d} taken together form a bivalent radical of formula $-(CH_2)_s-$ wherein s is 4 or 5;

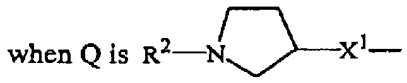
R^6 is hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, formyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl or C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl;

aryl is phenyl or phenyl substituted with 1 or more substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, polyhaloC_{1-6}alkyl, and C_{1-6}alkyloxy; and

Het is pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, or pyridazinyl.

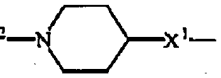
2. ***(cancelled)***

3. ***(previously presented)*** A method of treating a respiratory syncytial viral infection according to claim 10, wherein:

when Q is 

wherein X^1 is NR^4, O, S, S(=O), $S(=O)_2$, CH_2, C(=O), $C(=CH_2)$ or $CH(CH_3)$, then R^1 is other than pyridyl, pyridyl substituted with C_{1-6}alkyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl and imidazolyl substituted with C_{1-6}alkyl.

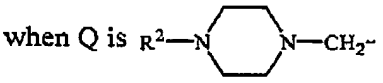
4. ***(previously presented)*** A method of treating a respiratory syncytial viral infection according to claim 10, wherein:

when Q is 

wherein X^1 is NR^4, O, S, S(=O), $S(=O)_2$, CH_2, C(=O), $C(=CH_2)$ or $CH(CH_3)$, then R^1 is other than pyridyl, pyridyl substituted with C_{1-6}alkyl, pyridyl substituted with 1 or 2 C_{1-6}alkyloxy, pyrazinyl, pyrrolyl, pyrrolyl substituted with C_{1-6}alkyl, imidazolyl and imidazolyl substituted with C_{1-6}alkyl.

5. ***(cancelled)***

6. ***(previously amended)*** A method of treating a respiratory syncytial viral infection according to claim 10, wherein:

when Q is 

then R^1 is other than pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl and imidazolyl substituted with C_{1-6}alkyl.

7. ***(cancelled)***

8. ***(currently amended)*** A method of treating a respiratory syncytial viral infection **comprising the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound, ~~according to claim 10,~~** wherein the compound is:

(±)-2-[[2-[[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-7-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride monohydrate;

2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-3-pyridinol;

(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-6-chloro-1-[(1,4-dimethyl-1H-imidazol-5-yl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine monohydrate;

(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-6-chloro-1-[(6-methyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[[3-(2-ethoxyethoxy)-6-methyl-2-pyridinyl]methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine tetrahydrochloride dihydrate;

(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2-chloro-1,4-dimethyl-1H-imidazol-5-yl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;

(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-6-chloro-1-[(2-chloro-1,4-dimethyl-1H-imidazol-5-yl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;

(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-6-methyl-1-[(6-methyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;

(±)-N-[1-(2-aminopropyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(3,5,6-trimethylpyrazinyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine tetrahydrochloride trihydrate;

(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(3,5,6-trimethylpyrazinyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[[3-(2-chloroethoxy)-6-methyl-2-pyridinyl]methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride dihydrate;

(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(3-amino-2-pyridinyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine tetrahydrochloride trihydrate;

2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride;

2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-6-chloro-4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride 2-propanolate (1:1);

(±)-2-[[2-[[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol;

(±)-2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminopropyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride trihydrate;

2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-7-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride dihydrate;

2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-6-bromo-4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride;

2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride monohydrate;

(±)-2-[[2-[[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol;

(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-4-methyl-1-[(6-methyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine; or

an addition salt or stereochemically isomeric form thereof.

9. *(currently amended)* A method of treating a respiratory syncytial viral infection **comprising the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound, ~~according to claim 10~~**, wherein the compound is:

2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-5-chloro-7-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride tetrahydrate;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2,4-dimethyl-5-oxazolyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2,5-dimethyl-4-oxazolyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride monohydrate;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(5-methyl-3-isoxazolyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride monohydrate;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2-methyl-5-oxazolyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine monohydrate;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2-methyl-5-oxazolyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride monohydrate;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-(4-thiazolylmethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(5-phenyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride;

5-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-2-oxazolemethanol tetrahydrochloride dihydrate;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(3-methyl-5-isoxazolyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride monohydrate;

4-[[1-[[2-(dimethylamino)-4-thiazolyl]methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]methyl]-1-piperidineethanamine tetrahydrochloride monohydrate 2-propanolate (1:1);

ethyl 5-[[2-[[1-[2-[[(1,1-dimethylethoxy)carbonyl]amino]ethyl]-4-piperidinyl]amino]-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-2-methyl-4-oxazolecarboxylate;

4-[[1-[(2-methyl-4-thiazolyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]methyl]-1-piperidineethanamine;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2-methyl-3-furanyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;

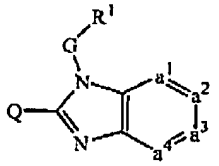
1,1-dimethylethyl 4-[[1-[[3-[2-(dimethylamino)ethoxy]]-6-methyl-2-pyridinyl]methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]amino-1-piperidinecarboxylate;

ethyl 4-[[1-[(3-amino-2-pyridinyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]amino]-1-piperidinecarboxylate;

N-[1-(6-methyl-2-pyridinyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]-1-(3-pyridinylcarbonyl)-4-piperidinamine; or

an addition salt or stereochemically isomeric form thereof.

10. ***(previously presented)*** A method of treating a respiratory syncytial viral infection, comprising the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of said compound of formula (I'):


(I')

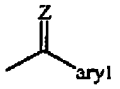
an addition salt, or stereochemically isomeric form thereof,

wherein $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ represents a radical of formula

$$-CH=CH-CH=CH- \quad (a\text{-}1);$$

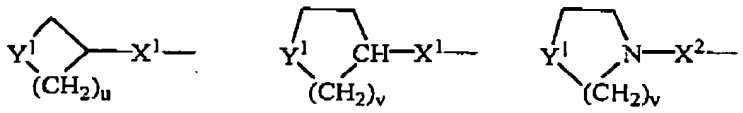
wherein each hydrogen atom in the radicals (a-1) may optionally be replaced by halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, nitro, amino, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, polyhaloC_{1-6}alkyl, carboxyl,

aminoC$_{1-6}$alkyl, mono- or di(C$_{1-4}$alkyl)aminoC$_{1-6}$alkyl, C$_{1-6}$alkyloxycarbonyl, hydroxyC$_{1-6}$alkyl, or a radical of formula



wherein Z is O, CH-C(=O)-NR^{5a}R^{5b}, CH$_2$, CH-C$_{1-6}$alkyl, N-OH or N-O-C$_{1-6}$alkyl;

Q is a radical of formula



(b-4) , (b-5) or , (b-6) ;

wherein

Y^1 is a bivalent radical of formula –NR^2- or –CH(NR^{2}R^4)-;

X^1 is NR^4, S, S(=O), S(=O)$_2$, O, CH$_2$, C(=O), C(=CH$_2$), CH(OH), CH(CH$_3$), CH(OCH$_3$), CH(SCH$_3$), CH(NR^{5a}R^{5b}), CH$_2$-NR^4 or NR^4-CH$_2$;

X^2 is a direct bond, CH$_2$, C(=O), NR^4, C$_{1-4}$alkyl-NR^4, NR^4-C$_{1-4}$alkyl;

u is 2 or 3;

v is 2; and

whereby each hydrogen atom in the carbocycles and the heterocycles defined in radicals (b-4), (b-5), and (b-6) may optionally be replaced by R^3; with the proviso that when R^3 is hydroxy or C$_{1-6}$alkyloxy, then R^3 can not replace a hydrogen atom in the α position relative to a nitrogen atom;

G is a direct bond or C$_{1-10}$alkanediyl;

R^1 is a monocyclic heterocycle selected from pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl and pyrazolyl; and each heterocycle may optionally be substituted with 1 or where possible more substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, amino, cyano, carboxy, C$_{1-6}$alkyl, C$_{1-6}$alkyloxy, C$_{1-6}$alkylthio, C$_{1-6}$alkyloxyC$_{1-6}$alkyl, aryl, arylC$_{1-6}$alkyl, arylC$_{1-6}$alkyloxy, hydroxyC$_{1-6}$alkyl, mono-or di(C$_{1-6}$alkyl)amino, mono-or di(C$_{1-6}$alkyl)aminoC$_{1-6}$alkyl, polyhaloC$_{1-6}$alkyl, C$_{1-6}$alkylcarbonylamino,

C_{1-6}alkyl-SO_2-NR^{5c}-, aryl-SO_2-NR^{5c}-, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, -C(=O)-$NR^{5c}R^{5d}$, HO(-CH_2-CH_2-O)$_n$-, halo(-CH_2-CH_2-O)$_n$-, C_{1-6}alkyloxy(-CH_2-CH_2-O)$_n$-, arylC_{1-6}alkyloxy(-CH_2-CH_2-O)$_n$- and mono-or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino (-CH_2-CH_2-O)$_n$-;

each n independently is 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R^2 is hydrogen, formyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl substituted with $N(R^6)_2$, or C_{1-10}alkyl substituted with $N(R^6)_2$ and optionally with a second, third or fourth substituent selected from amino, hydroxy, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{2-5}alkanediyl, piperidinyl, mono-or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonylamino, aryl and aryloxy;

R^3 is hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, arylC_{1-6}alkyl or arylC_{1-6}alkyloxy;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl or arylC_{1-6}alkyl;

R^{5a}, R^{5b}, R^{5c} and R^{5d} each independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}alkyl; or

R^{5a} and R^{5b}, or R^{5c} and R^{5d} taken together form a bivalent radical of formula -$(CH_2)_s$- wherein s is 4 or 5;

R^6 is hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, formyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl or C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl;

aryl is phenyl or phenyl substituted with 1 or more substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, polyhaloC_{1-6}alkyl, and C_{1-6}alkyloxy;

provided:

that when G is methylene, and R^1 is 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 6-methyl-2-pyridyl, 2-pyrazinyl or 5-methyl-imidazol-4-yl, then Q is other than

DOCKET NO.: JANS-0027/JAB1498 US
Application No.: 10/030,202
Office Action Dated: October 20, 2004

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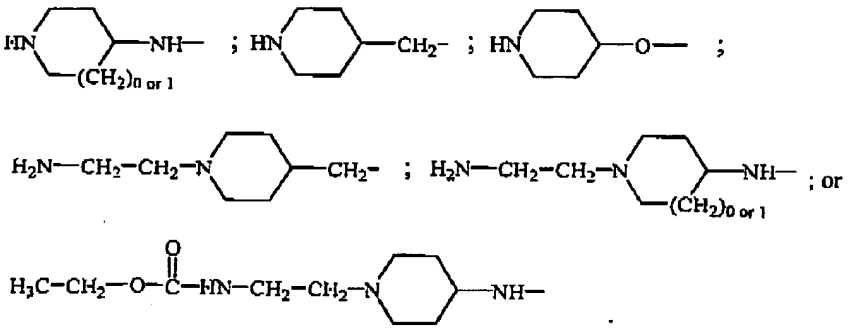

Claims 11 to 22 ***(cancelled)***